

THE MOZARTEUM ORCHESTRA SALZBURG

Over its long history, the Salzburg Mozarteum Orchestra, the symphony orchestra of the Town and the Province of Salzburg, has developed into an international ambassador for Mozart's home-town. The ensemble, which specialises in independent, contemporary interpretation of the works of Mozart, dates back to the *Cathedral Music Society and Mozarteum*, founded in 1841 with the support of Mozart's widow Constanze and their two sons. The Orchestra was given its present name in 1908. Ivor Bolton has been principal conductor since 2004.

As organizer of two concert series, the Mozarteum Orchestra is a pillar of Salzburg's busy musical life. The *Sunday Matinees* held in the famous Large Festival Hall offer performances of major, large-scale works from the symphonic repertoire. The programmes of the *Thursday Concerts* in the festive ambience of the Mozarteum Foundation are arranged thematically, and balance well-known orchestral music with less familiar works, focusing on the Vienna Classical school.

The Orchestra collaborates closely with the Salzburg Festival, contributing not only the central *Mozart Matinees* but also performing in major opera productions, as well as performing at the annual Mozart Week and in the concert program of the *Kulturvereinigung*. Stylistic versatility and flexibility mark the ensemble's participation in the season's productions of the Salzburg Landestheater, with a repertoire ranging from grand opera through operetta and ballet to musical.

Recent concert tours have taken the 91-strong Orchestra to Argentina, China, Japan, Germany, Italy and Spain. Internationally distinguished conductors including Fabio Biondi, Robin Ticciati, Marc Minkowski, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Dmitrij Kitajenko and Mark Elder speak highly of their work with such a dynamic ensemble receptive to new ideas. Since 2011, principal guest conductor Trevor Pinnock has intensified his connection with the Mozarteum Orchestra.

The Orchestra's wide range of performances is documented by many recordings on CD. The Mozarteum Orchestra's main official sponsors are Audi and the Leica Camera AG.

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Reviews

“It's hard to imagine a chamber orchestra with a more precise sense of balance or a more singular sense of expression...The finale of the "Jupiter" Symphony, Mozart's last statement in the genre, is always an uplifting experience if performed well, but on this occasion it was transcendental.”

New York Newsday

“Thus the 45-member orchestra's choice of Mozart and Beethoven was welcome in its Seattle debut, especially given its illuminating and riveting performance....The standing ovation from the capacity house seemed inevitable.” Seattle Post-Intelligencer

“The string playing was soft and round in attack, warm-toned, sweetly tuned, and lithe. The orchestra makes a beautiful, relaxed sound that never goes into overdrive and never descends into sloppiness. It is a sound that speaks of a time and place that is not our own but of emotions that are.” The Boston Globe

“The advantages of importing Mozart directly from the source were plain in the all-Mozart program by the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg on Wednesday at Symphony Center.” Chicago Tribune

“The Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg makes a wonderful sound. The strings are silvery and confident, the winds are full-throatedly earthy and the horns proclaim their hunting lineage with every braying fanfare.” The Washington Post

“the performances were superb” Newsday

“Splendid ensemble, virtuosic and polished instrumental skills, unforced balances and a disarming and relaxed stylishness marked all the playing.” Los Angeles Times

“plays with the special authority of musicians swinging into down-home styles...dazzling”

The Washington Post